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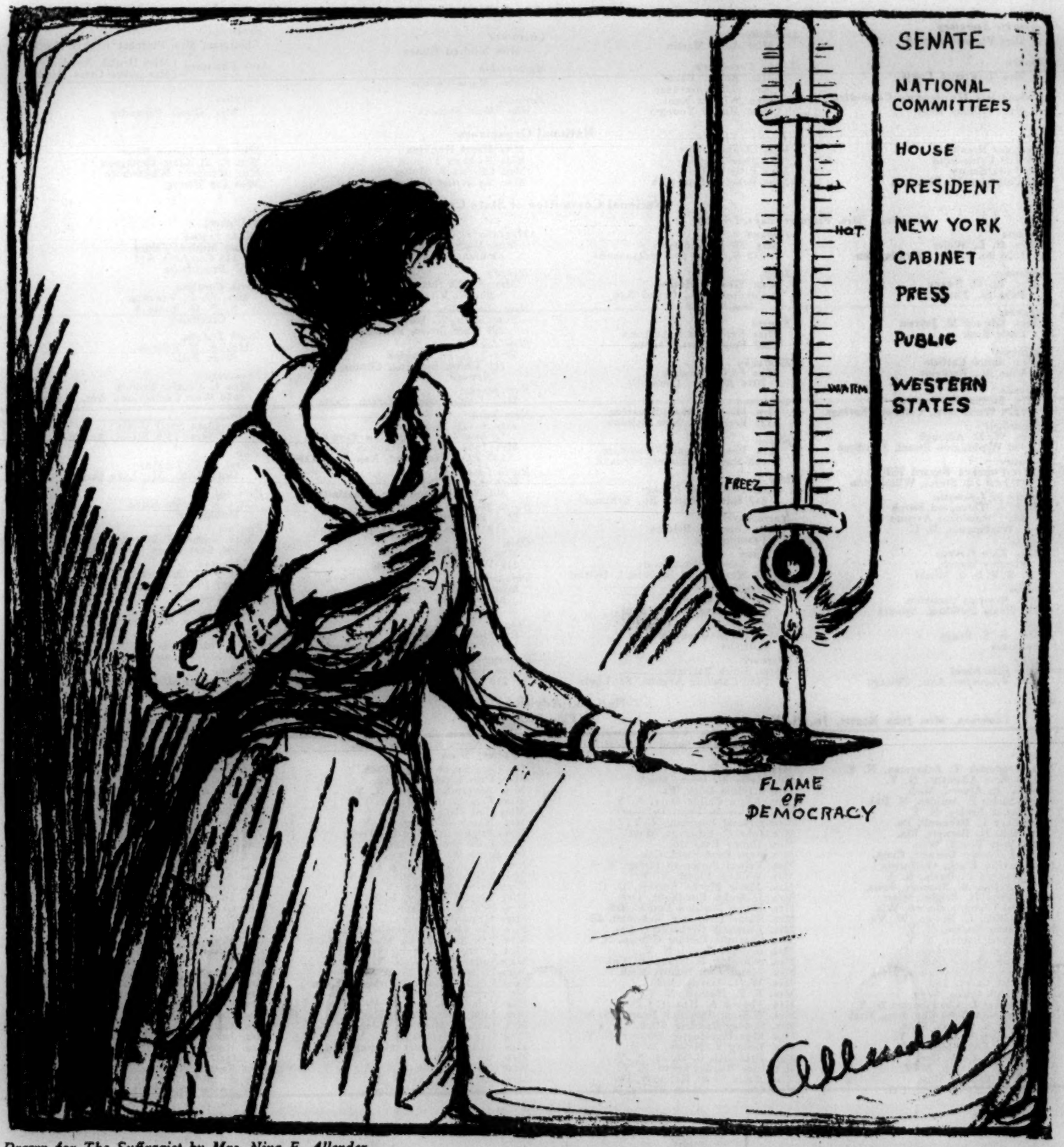
The Suffragist

OFFICIAL WEEKLY ORGAN OF
THE NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1918



Drawn for The Suffragist by Mrs. Nina E. Allender

"Getting Hot"

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Notes of the Week

Ratifying Constitutional Amendments

NOW that it is only a matter of a short time when the suffrage amendment will have passed both houses of Congress and go to the states for ratification the question of the difficulties to be encountered in securing that ratification and the length of time it is apt to consume, arises.

To judge by other constitutional amendments which have become law it should not take more than two years to ratify the suffrage amendment. At least this amount of time should be allowed for it because of the fact that most of the state legislatures meet only once in two years.

The suffrage amendment will probably be the nineteenth amendment. Of the seventeen that have already become law the first ten were passed and ratified almost immediately after the adoption of the constitution. They were passed by Congress in September, 1789, and had been ratified by the necessary three-fourths of the states by December, 1791.

The eleventh amendment (dealing with the powers of the federal judiciary), submitted in March, 1794, was ratified by January, 1798.

The twelfth amendment (concerning the election of president and vice-president) passed Congress in December, 1803, and was ratified in September, 1804.

The thirteenth amendment, the first of the three dealing with slavery, was submitted in February, 1865, and ratified in December, 1865.

The fourteenth amendment submitted June, 1866, was ratified July, 1868.

The fifteenth amendment, submitted February, 1869, was ratified March, 1870.

The income tax amendment, the fifteenth, was submitted in July, 1909, and ratified in February, 1913.

The direct election of senators amendment, the sixteenth, was submitted in May, 1912, and ratified one year later.

These last two amendments were ones over which there was considerable controversy. One was not ratified for more than three years. It was opposed by the most powerful elements in the country. The other was ratified in a year. If the Senate should pass the amendment immediately every American woman should be able to cast her ballot in the next presidential elections.

Senator Tillman Offers Petitions

SENATOR Tillman, of South Carolina offered in the Senate petitions from South Carolina on suffrage with the following remarks:

> "Mr. President, I send to the desk and wish to have noted in the *Record* several petitions from South Carolina colleges, including the State Normal and Industrial College at Rock Hill, known as Winthrop College; and one from other women of the state, asking me to vote for the woman suffrage amendment.
>
> Of course they did not expect me to comply with their request, knowing my attitude on the question. I think the women will get the vote in time, but it is not a question for the National Government to decide and any interference in Washington in regard to the ballot is contrary to my ideas of constitutionality.
>
> "I would like to have the number of ladies signing these petitions counted and printed."

The senator evidently considered that by giving the numbers the weight of the petitions would be lessened. The figures are as follows:

> Petition signed by 16 women of Richland County, S. C.;
>
> Petition signed by 24 teachers and pupils of Anderson Woman College, South Carolina;
>
> Petition signed by 17 teachers of Converse College, South Carolina;
>
> Petition signed by 202 teachers and pupils of Coker College, South Carolina; and
>
> Petition signed by 877 teachers and pupils of Winthrop College, South Carolina.

Would the senator have thus belittled the petitions of 1,136 highly educated men citizens of his state?

Washington Women in Politics

THE women of the state of Washington organized four years ago a Legislative Federation for the purpose of keeping in touch with all legislation and of assisting such legislation as was found to be of especial interest to women. This organization has grown until at present it represents forty societies with a membership of 15,000 women.

The organization publishes a monthly bulletin. When the state legislature is in session it maintains a bureau of information in the State House in order to keep in close touch with the proceedings of that body.

This Federation is now arranging for a campaign to elect women members of the state legislatures in the next elections. Its power will undoubtedly be felt in these elections as it has been already in the primaries held in February when the women of Seattle helped in removing from office a corrupt mayor and putting in his place an efficient public servant.

Hungarian Women Included in Franchise Reform Bill

THE franchise committee of the Hungarian Diet has approved the electoral reform bill, according to a dispatch received on March 19. There was only one dissenting vote in the committee. This reform bill would give the vote to every Hungarian man and woman twenty-four years old and over and able to read and write. Provision for secret voting is made in the bill.

Texas Women May Vote in Primaries

ON March 16 the House of Delegates of the Texas legislature passed a bill similar to the one passed in Arkansas last year, permitting women to vote in primary elections. The vote was 84 to 34. As in the case of Arkansas, this bill will give the women of the state a controlling influence in elections because elections are really decided in the primaries in states which return members of one party only to office. The entire delegation in Congress from Texas is Democratic.

This vote in Texas, moreover, makes matters look very hopeful for the ratification of the federal suffrage amendment by that state.

If Suffrage Is Delayed

IF the federal suffrage amendment does not pass and pass speedily the President of the United States will have to bear the responsibility of the failure when the next elections occur. The National Woman's Party has since its founding more than five years ago, been saying just exactly this. Recently others have been realizing this fact which they failed to note in former times, especially during election campaigns.

The following remarks are not quoted from an editorial in a Suffragist of 1916, but from a very recent issue of the Metropolitan Magazine:

"Under our form of government, Mr. Wilson is entirely responsible and solely responsible for the choice of his cabinet and for the selection of administrative officers outside of the cabinet. In no other country in the world, certainly not in Germany or in England or in France, is there a chief executive with so much power, power almost amounting to real dictatorship. For the lamentable failures of the present Administration, therefore, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Wilson alone is responsible. Therefore, we may expect sooner or later that in spite of all the idolatry of the past Mr. Wilson will come in for a large share of the blame."

A Double Standard of Wages in War Work

THROUGH the Intercollegiate Intelligence Bureau the War Trade Board is endeavoring to secure the services of women college graduates for positions and is offering them salaries of from six to nine hundred dollars a year. This maximum salary is not sufficient to live upon in Washington at the present time. The War Trade Board realizes this and therefore suggests that women who are living in Washington and are not wholly dependent upon their own resources shall apply for the positions.

Why should the government expect trained women to accept these meagre salaries when it is at the same time offering much larger ones to men employes? In certain cases corporations working on government contracts, spending government money, have tried to justify their expenditures for salaries by explaining that they offered men double the salaries they were receiving because they wished to secure the services of the best possible men for government work. If this is the case why not apply it equally in the cases of women and of men?—M. G. F.

A Suggestion for Mr. Creel

By Ernestine Evans

GOVERNMENTS, like private personages, often, perhaps from Christian intention and perhaps from pure lack of economy, let their right hands do what their left hands know not of.

How they waste their resources! How innocent they are of their resources when they come to the spending of sums taxed from the people. Here is Mr. George Creel, custodian of $_____, for purposes of public information and incidentally what has come to be known in Europe these last terrible years as the "propagand." His the job of assisting the departments of the government to get it across the zones and latitudes, over enemy lines and into enemy hearts, and broadcast among the mistrustful masses of Russia, that America is a gleaming Democracy, at war for none of the selfish aims of empire, glad to give her sons only because we fight "for those things which have always lain nearest our hearts, the right of those who submit to authority. . ."

What a happy day for George Creel, if he should arise and find that he need not negotiate for distribution to the farthest soviet, to the last soldier and the last workman of Great and Little Russia, of the President's messages, but that he may flash by cable news of deeds, outshining words as day the night, that the years of debate and hedging and reluctance and illtemper and grudging promises are over, and that the federal suffrage amendment has gone to the states! And how cheap! Compared with the tedious dickering for translations of books on Abraham Lincoln, testimonial of heroic death two generations past, how easy for him to spread the simple news that there is faith in government of men and women, for men and women, by men AND women, among the Quick of these United States.

EVERY day that the suffrage amendment lies under the Senate lid, the value of the passage of the suffrage amendment as "propagand" is diminished. How can Mr. Creel send the news flying to the heartsick of Europe, glossed in its proper trappings, if the truth is that the dominant party in the United States is an instrument that only painfully was pushed to this act of faith in essential justice to the women of its country? To carry the moral force and triumphant hope that the news should, to be a renewed invitation to the masses of Europe to rise to Democracy and its promises of abundant life for all, the story of the passage of the federal amendment should not go forth with details of senatorial impatience. It should be the story of an Administration ashamed to delay, and pressing for Democracy at home, with flaming sword in hand and joy in the occasion.

Can Mr. Creel tell this story so that it rings in the ears of the women of Europe as it should, if the Democratic Party goes on slowly and slothfully to this testimonial of our belief in justice for women and for all mankind?

They say Mr. Creel has the ear of the President as few men in America have today. Can he not entreat the President not to spoil his propaganda? Can he not entreat the Democrats in the Senate who want justice abroad but not at home, that they are spoiling his story of Democracy, which millions in Europe wait to read.

Ought not Mr. Creel to take his just share in creating the good news? Is it not the only efficient way to get the most for the least of the people's money, in propaganda for Democratic intentions?

A Deputation to Senator Penrose

A DEPUTATION of Pennsylvania suffragists, representing every shade of suffrage opinion, made this week a united drive on Senator Penrose in an effort to overcome his opposition to the federal suffrage amendment.

The appointment with the Senator had been made days before to receive the suffragists at his office in the Commonwealth Trust Building, Philadelphia. At 10:30 this morning, a telephone message was received from Senator Penrose's office stating that the Senator had been detained in Washington and could not receive the deputation. Mr. Samuel Dunbar, who gave this message, said that Mr. Penrose would let the suffragists know later about his receiving them.

When it was explained to Mr. Dunbar that a representative and influential group of men and women had been invited to visit Senator Penrose and that it was then too late to communicate with them, he asked if any of the deputation were "from up the State." When he was told that the deputation would have leading citizens not only from Philadelphia, but from nearby counties, he said that he would "have to explain to them." Just why Mr. Penrose's detention in Washington, which was known to Mr. Dunbar at nine o'clock last night, should not have been communicated to the suffragists earlier, caused some comment by members of the deputation.

Despite the fact that the Senator was not present, the speakers made their addresses to Mr. Penrose's representative at his office and requested that the written copies of what they had said, left with this representative, be sent promptly to the Senator. The speakers were Mr. John A. Phillips, vice-president of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor; Graham C. Woodward, Esq., a prominent Republican lawyer of Philadelphia; and Mrs. James Winsor, of Haverford.

AS an instance of the change of sentiment toward woman suffrage during the last few months, a Congressman, who has only recently come out for the national amendment, sent word to Senator Penrose that he believed the people of his district were in favor of equal suffrage and wished to see it adopted. This Congressman was the Honorable Peter E. Costello, of the Fifth Congressional District, and the message was sent by Mrs. H. C. Niemeyer, a leading suffragist from the district. Congressman Costello voted in favor of the suffrage amendment on January 10, when the House of Representatives passed the resolution.

Among the deputation were the following: Mrs. Edwin C. Grice, President of the Home and School League; Miss Helen Taft, Dean of Bryn Mawr College; Miss Marie Ernst Kennedy, Miss Sophia H. Dulles, Mrs. William Baird, Miss Natalie Morris, Mrs. H. H. Donaldson, Mrs. Edward Robbins, Mrs. Frances Noble, Mrs. Edward Troth, Mrs. Charles J. Rhoads, Mrs. Morris Jastrow, Mrs. George F. Stradling, Mrs. Charles Dudley, Mrs. Joseph Gazzam, Mrs. William Albert Wood, Mrs. Edward Y. Hartshorne, Miss Florence L. Sanville, Miss Mary McConnell, Miss Martha Davis, Miss Elizabeth Lowry, Mrs. Edward M. Biddle, President of the Civil Club; Miss Anna F. Daviss, head of the College Settlement; Mrs. M. M. Adams, Head of the Southwark Neighborhood House; Dr. Sarah H. Lockrey, Miss Fanny Travis Cochran, Mrs. George Morgan, Miss Frieda Miller, Miss Anna M. W. Pennypacker, daughter of the late Governor Pennypacker; Mrs. R. A. Fowler, Judge Edward M. Biddle, Mr. Shippen Lewis, Mr. Reuben A. Fowler, Mr. Wilmer, President of the Pennsylvania Men's League for Woman Suffrage; Mrs. Harry Lowenburg and Miss Lewellyn M. Clinton. Mrs. Wilfred Lewis introduced the speakers.

In the absence of Senator Penrose, the addresses were made to Mr. W. Harry Baker, Secretary of the Republican State Committee, who received the deputation very courteously. One hundred and forty-seven persons were in the deputation.

MR. Graham C. Woodward, of Philadelphia, said:

"I trust you will see your way clear to use your great influence in the Senate in favor of the amendment for it more than anything else will convince the people at large that the Republican Party as a whole continues to stand for progress. I realize that America must make war her only business but I can conceive of nothing which would so inspire the women in this country to more patriotism than the early passage of the woman suffrage amendment to the Federal Constitution."

Seeing a Jail from the Inside

From "The Survey," March 2, 1918

THE other day three men were charged with murder in Washington, D. C. They had been prisoners in the District of Columbia workhouse at Occoquan, and one of their number had killed the guard who tried to prevent them from escaping. At the trial the charge was changed to felonious assault with intent to kill. One of the three turned state's evidence and his case was dismissed; a second was acquitted by the jury; and a third, who had actually struck the fatal blow, was let off with three months in jail.

Why was such leniency bestowed? The reason assigned by the attorney for the men is that they took the jury into their confidence in regard to the treatment they had received at the workhouse. One said that he had been strung up by his wrists for several hours so that his heels were off the floor. Another said that he had been brutally beaten by guards. Other mistreatment was described. One of the jury declared later that if the prisoner who struck the blow had not admitted it he, too, would have been acquitted.

THE suffragists who have picketed the President have made the Occoquan workhouse famous. The *Survey* has received an affidavit, sworn to by one of their number and understood to be part of the evidence on which suits against the management of the institution are being brought, describing some of the conditions there. Mary Winsor, of Haverford P. O., Pa., is the signer of the document, which was executed before a notary at Ardmore, Pa., on November 23, last. Miss Winsor was a prisoner at Occoquan from September 6 to October 21.

The affidavit criticizes first the hospital and medical attendance at the workhouse and declares that "precautions against infectious skin diseases were inadequate." "I saw," swears Miss Winsor, "in the sewing room and dormitory, using the same toilets as we did, an elderly woman (white) whose arms were covered to the elbows with sores, and sores were visible on her neck. She remained with us for over twenty-four hours."

The hospital seemed to be used chiefly as a prison, says Miss Winsor. To quote:

A GROUP of suffragists, both sick and well, including Miss Lavinia Dock, of Pennsylvania, and Miss Lucy Ewing, of Chicago, were shut up there during the greater part of their stay at Occoquan, apparently to prevent them from communicating with our group. Mrs. Kendall was there in solitary confinement forty-eight hours with no toothbrush, no water to clean her teeth or wash in, no night gown, no sanitary conveniences except an open bucket, three slices of dry bread a day and three cups of water, served in a paper cup so leaky that most of the water ran out. Mrs. Margaret Kessler, of Colorado, though ill with a complaint which had been in part the cause of her father's death, was turned out of the hospital in the cold and dusk of the evening and taken back to the dormitory, supported by a matron, as she was too weak to walk. This was to make room for other suffragists, eleven of whom, though not ill, were imprisoned under lock and key in the hospital (as a punishment for refusing to work) from Monday evening, October 15, to Sunday morning, October 21, when we were transferred to the District jail.

As to the food, Miss Winsor says:

FROM Friday, September 7, to Thursday, October 4, we had as breakfast-food, rice, hominy, or oatmeal, twenty-three times. Out of these twenty-three times we found worms ten times—the largest collection of worms at one meal being fifteen worms. We had worms and rat dirt combined twice, and scorched oatmeal five times. The breakfast was badly and stupidly served, each person's plate being filled and then the prisoners brought into the dining room; in consequence the food was cold by the time we arrived at the table. Although there was a large herd of perhaps seventy-five cows on the farm, no butter or milk to drink was ever served to prisoners. The small quantity of milk on the breakfast food was condensed milk. During this period the meat was tainted or rancid seven times, and generally so tough that it could be chewed only with difficulty. Tomatoes were served twenty-one days, always once and often twice a day. The soup, which with bread was all we had for supper, was made out of the remnants of the dinner and was therefore merely dinner over again, only much more horrid. When we stirred up the soup a greenish-gray sediment arose from the bottom. Sometimes the soup was made of peas or corn, which were almost raw. Miss Margaret M. Fotheringham, of Buffalo, who is a registered Red Cross dietitian and a teacher of dietetics in the public schools of Buffalo, kept some of the peas from her soup. When dried they were hard enough to use in a pea shooter. Everyone hated the soup. Scarcely a night went by that some woman in our dormitory was not ill from constipation, pain in the stomach, vomiting or diarrhea. . . . On Sunday, September 23, we broke open Miss Maud Malone's ginger cake and found in it a dead fly and a piece of newspaper with the word "Congress" distinctly legible. The corn bread was uneatable; it was heavy, soggy and of a greenish-gray hue within.

THE annual report to Congress of the Board of Charities of the District of Columbia, just out, devotes several pages to the pickets. This board has supervision over the Occoquan workhouse. Referring to the picket-prisoners, the report says:

These women from the first were not amenable to the modern humane principles in operation at Occoquan. Their persistent disregard of rule, their refusal to work, their open defiance of authority, and their acts of violence and rebellion finally compelled their transfer to the District jail for safe confinement in cells.

A letter from George S. Wilson, secretary of the board, to the district commissioners, written October 18 and printed in the report, says:

As stated, they [the pickets] are at present, because of a refusal to obey rules and direction, and especially their refusal to perform the work as assigned them aforesaid, placed in rooms in the hospital (that institution being at present entirely free from occupation by sick or invalid prisoners), and one in a room in the officers' quarters, where every consideration is givent hem, this segregation being necessary to mitigate the evil influence upon other prisoners of a permitted violation of the rules of the institution.

Under all of the circumstances the board believes that these prisoners are not in a position to ask for any privilege and that none should be granted so long, certainly, as their conduct as above stated continues.

Looking Backward

"OH, it's coming," says a bright, gracious woman who still thinks of equal suffrage as a mere slip of paper in her own hand and not of its broad meaning to humanity.

If you could only know how tired we get of that word "coming" about suffrage. Suffrage is no more coming than universal peace is coming. Suffrage is going to be "got" because there are enough women deadly in earnest to go after it. But what is coming is that time when the world will look back on these women who are braving rebuff which comes from sources expected and unexpected, in the same light in which they now look upon those men who disguised themselves as Indians and gave the famous Boston Tea Party ("shocking," did someone say then?'; in the same light in which they now look upon Columbus who dared to go over the world's rim ("Over the Top," we say now).

In the next generation when children are reading in their histories, among other things about this great war for democracy, an account of the suffrage campaign of 1917; when they look askance at you, can you tell them truly that you took your stand for the principle as you saw it from the inner light of your own heart? Or perhaps you'll say what so many are saying today, "Oh, I believed in it, I was for it alright." Mere belief in a principle is of no consequence when the time has come to act. But when the school children of the next generation still look askance at you and long to hear of the part your belief led you to play, perhaps you'll tuck your soft, gray, curls under the lacy frills of your cap and click your knitting needles a little louder (knitting may be "in" again then) and answer, "I always knew it would come," or perhaps you'll tilt your chair back a bit, insert your thumbs in the arm holes of your vest and with your head a trifle on one side, reply, "Oh, I was for it alright."

And perhaps the next generation will be a bit disappointed in the part you played in the 1917 campaign for democracy.—*L. Dick in Gulfport and Biloxi (Miss.) Daily Herald.*

District and Federal Courts Appeal Picket Cases

IN the United States Circuit Court of Appeals at Richmond last Thursday the brief in defense of W. H. Whittaker, former superintendent of the Occoquan workhouse, on his appeal from the decision of Judge Waddill in releasing from his custody thirty pickets, was filed. This is an appeal in the case for the release from Occoquan of the pickets, which was brought by attorneys for the Woman's Party last November when it was learned that the women were being inhumanly treated at Occoquan.

The case was argued at Alexandria last November and Judge Waddill said in rendering his opinion that the women had been illegally confined in Occoquan. He ordered their release from Occoquan and their transfer to the District Jail where they had been originally sentenced. They were all released five days later.

At the hearing it was testified that the Commissioners of the District of Columbia ordered the transfer of the pickets to Occoquan and that they were taken there by the direction of the Commissioners.

After Judge Waddill's decision sixteen suits for damage were filed, eight in the United States Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, at Richmond, and eight in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, at Washington. The first suits were against Whittaker and his assistant, Captain Reams, on account of the brutal treatment of the women while at Occoquan. The latter suits were filed in the District of Columbia against the Commissioners of the District of Columbia and Superintendent Zinkham, of the District Jail, for the unlawful transfer of the pickets to the custody of Whittaker at Occoquan.

THE Commissioners of the District of Columbia attempt to defend the act of Whittaker and their own in confining the pickets at Occoquan in a brief of more than twenty-nine pages, which was finished with this paragraph:

"The case is of considerably more importance than appears on the surface. The Commissioners of the District of Columbia are defendants in eight damage suits aggregating approximately $400,000 because of their alleged illegal act of transferring some of these prisoners. It thus becomes a matter of first importance to them whether they have violated any law."

The brief in support of Judge Waddill's decision will be filed in the Circuit Court of Appeals at Richmond on or before March 28, and the case will be argued during the April term of the Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond. The April term convenes on April 3, and the estimate of the clerk as to the time this appeal will be reached for argument now is April 11. The case will be argued on or about that date by Dudley Field Malone and Matthew E. O'Brien, counsel for the Woman's Party, representing the pickets' side, and by Conrad H. Syme, Corporation Counsel for the District of Columbia, Frank H. Stephens, Assistant Corporation Counsel for the District of Columbia, and Richard H. Mann, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, representing W. H. Whittaker and the Commissioners of the District of Columbia.

SHOULD the decision of Judge Waddill be sustained, as it undoubtedly will be, it will mean that each time the picket side of the case was presented to any court other than the Police Court of the District of Columbia the contention of the pickets that their arrest, conviction, and incarceration was illegal, will have been sustained. Up to the present time that contention has been sustained by the United States Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, in the case of thirty pickets, and in three separate cases involving eleven women by the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia. If the United States Circuit Court of Appeals now sustains it, the matter is ended unless the Commissioners of the District of Columbia are foolish enough to take the question to the Supreme Court of the United States; and the vindication of the Woman's Party in their contention that they were not violators of the law will be complete.

MATTHEW E. O'BRIEN, attorney for the Woman's Party, who with Dudley Field Malone, secured the habeas corpus for the release of the pickets, is preparing a brief in answer to the one filed by the Corporation Counsel of the District of Columbia.

In speaking of this latest phase of the picket cases, Mr. O'Brien said:

"The case is of great importance. The illegal arrest, unlawful confinement, and brutal treatment while in prison of thirty suffragists should be of importance to the whole nation. If these pickets could be illegally arrested, illegally convicted, and illegally confined, there is nothing to prevent the same treatment being accorded to any other citizen of the United States, and our liberties and constitutional rights might be frittered away by petty officials who were ready and willing to do the bidding of any administration that might be in power.

"Instead of now asking competent legal advice as to whether they had violated the law, it might have been well had the Commissioners of the District of Columbia sought and procured such advice *before they ordered the wholesale arrest and imprisonment of refined women who were exercising their constitutional rights and who violated no law."*

From the West to the East

By Alice D. Van Cleve

Mother East enthroned in splendor
Close to the mornings gate
Take the message thy daughters bear thee
From the men of the Treasure State.

You gave birth, oh Mother,
You sent them forth from your knee
Strongest among your nurselings,
Eager and glad to be free.

They have builded a mighty empire
From shining sea to sea;
Take them this loyal greeting
From the men of the West to thee.

Because we have fought and conquered
We know what the fight is worth
To win to a pleasant roof-tree
And a little plot of earth.

We know the strength of our women
In vigil and toil and pain.
Our constant patient helpmates,
What could they ask in vain

Who rode with us to the skyline
To blaze an unbroken trail
Braving fatigue and danger,
With a courage that could not fail?

For this they sit in our councils,
Equals in honor and state;
Aye; we have made them leaders,
Because our faith is great.

And so we have sent them to you
Afar by the Eastern sea
To aid in your high endeavor,
To help you to be free.

To build an enfranchised nation
To give to woman her due,
Take then this loyal greeting
From the men of the West to you.

The Suffragist

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THE NATIONAL SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right of suffrage to women.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article be proposed to the legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of the said legislatures, shall be valid as part of said Constitution, namely:

"ARTICLE—SEC. 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

"SEC. 2. Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the provisions of this article."

THE AMENDMENT IN THE SIXTY-FIFTH CONGRESS

Introduced

In the Senate, on April 4, 1917, by Senators Thompson, Owen, Jones and Shafroth.

In the House, on April 2, 1917, by Representatives Raker, Rankin, Mondell, Keating, Taylor and Hayden. Reintroduced in the House December 18, 1917, by Representatives Rankin, Raker, Hayden, Taylor, Keating and Mondell.

Referred

In the Senate, to the Committee on Woman Suffrage.

In the House, to the Judiciary Committee.

In the House all resolutions reintroduced on December 18 were referred to the Committee on Woman Suffrage.

Reported in the Senate

Favorably, September 15, 1917.

Reported in the House

By Judiciary Committee without recommendation December 15, 1917.

By Suffrage Committee with recommendation January 8, 1918.

Present Status

In the Senate

On the calendar awaiting a vote.

In the House

Passed January 10, 1918.

HISTORY OF THE AMENDMENT

Drafted

In its present form, by Susan B. Anthony in 1875.

First Introduced

January 10, 1878, by Hon. A. A. Sargent, in the Senate.

Reported from Committee

In the Senate

1878, Adverse majority.
1879, Favorable minority.
1882, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1884, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1886, Favorable majority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1892, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1896, Adverse majority.
1913, Favorable majority.
1914, Favorable majority.
1917, Favorable majority.

In the House

1883, Favorable majority.
1884, Adverse majority, favorable minority.
1886, Favorable minority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1894, Adverse majority.
1914, Without recommendation.
1916, Without recommendation.
1917, Without recommendation.

Voted Upon

In the Senate

January 25, 1887. Yeas 16, nays 34. Absent 26 (of whom 4 were announced as for and 2 against).

March 19, 1914. Yeas 35, nays 34, failing by 11 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

In the House

January 12, 1915. Yeas 174, nays 204, failing by 78 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

January 10, 1918. Yeas 274, nays 136, passing by the necessary two-thirds vote.

The Demand of the New South

AN eleventh hour convert to federal suffrage, the President is now tacitly supporting the Susan B. Anthony Amendment, forced to this action by party expediency.

With the fall campaigns looming just ahead, the Republican and Democratic National Committees—which two years ago might have given ungrudgingly what they have now been forced to concede—have placed the official party stamp on national suffrage.

There still remain to be converted only a little group of stiff-necked gentlemen of the old school.

Senator Tillman spoke for these gentlemen in characteristic fashion this week when he read on the floor of the Senate the petitions from women of his state, South Carolina. The petitions represented the desires of more than one thousand women, a group of the young women of the higher institutions of learning in South Carolina, and the teachers of those institutions.

For Senator Tillman those petitions were without signfiicance. He admitted that he was reading the petitions because he knew the writers from those Southern colleges would not expect him to; and he jocosely asked the Senate to note the number of names signed—implying that so inconsiderable a group was unworthy serious consideration.

The gentleman from South Carolina typifies the attitude of the old South, taking its last stand against the federal suffrage amendment, about to pass the Senate over their protest.

To the old South there is nothing significant in the fact that the girls of the Southern colleges, the forward-looking educators of those institutions, are today petitioning their deaf Southern representatives on behalf of the liberties of the women of this nation, the liberties of southern women and northern women.

The Southern gentlemen of the old school do not realize that youth, the spirit of the new South, which they have never represented and are apparently unable to represent, is speaking.

The present final polls of the National Woman's Party seem to indicate that the suffrage amendment is about to go through the Senate. The long opposition bit by bit is falling away. The amendment is about to pass, not because of Democratic support, but in spite of Democratic opposition. More than two-thirds of the Republicans and but one-half of the Democrats, approximately, are now supporting suffrage in the Senate, as in the House. If the bill passes, it will pass, the present poll indicates, by the narrowest of margins.

In spite of those young enthusiastic builders of the South that is to be, the college women of South Carolina, the young women so zealously working in Texas, in Florida, in the other Southern states, the victory when it comes will come in spite of the South—unless President Wilson acts speedily.

Let the President point out to the gentlemen of the old school that it is the young generation that is knocking at their door, not merely small groups of voteless and unimportant citizens.

Let the President waive futile advice—such as that he sent this week concerning state suffrage to the legislature of Texas—and speak directly to the United States Senate as leader of the Democratic Party. For the impatient young are at the door.

The Country to Learn of New Suffrage Crisis

A NATION-WIDE campaign to acquaint the country with the present suffrage situation is now being once more undertaken by the National Woman's Party. The spring campaign will send a dozen brilliant speakers into the field who will cover every part of the country. They will show the satisfied women of the various states that mere good will in regard to the measure is not enough aid for the Democratic Administration to lend to pass this measure through the Senate.

Suffragists are aware that the Administration will see that the federal suffrage amendment is passed before the fall elections, but calculated delay of this kind is not enough to satisfy thinking women, who are aware that they are likely to lose all they have gained in the House if they are not able to take the suffrage amendment to the state legislatures immediately. Speakers will prove to the alert but misinformed groups in the states that immediate action is all that will satisfy the women who at this time are giving their all in supporting the government.

The National Woman's Party will go into the field this spring, an incorporated suffrage organization, not only to arouse women to the danger in the present policy of inaction being pursued by the government, but also to actively support the resolution introduced in Congress by Representatives John Baer, of North Dakota, and Jeannette Rankin, of Montana. These resolutions demand an investigation of the arrests and imprisonment of the suffrage pickets, and their mistreatment at the government workhouse in the District of Columbia. Since the District Court of Appeals reversed the verdict of the Washington, D. C. courts, men and women from many states have asked action concerning this pending Congressional investigation which may at last definitely place the blame for the illegal arrests of hundreds of women and the mistreatment of nearly one hundred.

THE Woman's Party speakers will tell the women of the states of the status of this investigation, describe the background which made it necessary, and explain the legal aspect of the cases of those who maintained their right to petition the President with banners.

"The illegal arrest and brutal imprisonment of women asking political liberty is one of the black chapters in the history of the present Administration, but, as a part of the Democratic record as well as for the complete vindication of the pickets, it is a chapter that the public should know at this time," said Miss Paul in speaking of the spring plans.

Appeals to President Wilson to fix responsibility for the illegal arrest and brutal treatment of the suffrage pickets are calling the attention of the President to the present situation. In a telegram which Mrs. Bertha W. Fowler, state chairman of the National Woman's Party, addressed to the President, she says:

"The District Court of Appeals, by decision of March 4, declares arrest and imprisonment of ninety-seven women suffrage pickets is illegal. We urge you to push immediate investigation in Congress to fix responsibility for said illegal arrest and imprisonment and for brutal and outrageous treatment of American women."

BERTHA W. FOWLER,
State Chairman, National Woman's Party.

AMONG the speakers who will interpret the present suffrage situation will be Miss Alice Paul, National Chairman; Mrs. Abby Scott Baker, Miss Mabel Vernon, Dudley Field Malone, Dr. Harvey J. Wiley, Miss Beulah Amidon, Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles, Mrs. Helena Hill Weed and Miss Margaret Whittemore. Miss Stevens, Miss Vernon, Dr. Wiley and Miss Paul will speak in the Southern states. In the Middle West Mrs. Baker and Mrs. Hilles will speak, with Miss Amidon, Mr. Malone and Mrs. Weed in the East and Miss Margaret Fay Whittemore speaking on the Pacific Coast.

Miss Paul, who spoke last week in Pittsburgh and in Virginia, will speak at the Buffalo convention of the Woman's Party next week, with Miss Elsie Hill, of Connecticut. Because Miss Paul, as director of the many departments of the Woman's Party, is seldom able to leave Washington her analysis of the political status of suffrage at this time is of especial interest to suffragists.

Mrs. Abby Scott Baker, one of the most brilliant speakers of the Woman's Party, a member of the national executive committee, will hold her first meetings in Chicago and Cincinnati on March 26, 28 and 29.

Miss Stevens, following meetings in all of the larger cities of Texas, will speak in Oklahoma and Tennessee. Miss Vernon will speak in Richmond, Lynchburg and Roanoke, Virginia, at meetings arranged by Mrs. Sophie G. Meredith and Mrs. Dexter Otey. Dr. Wiley will make his first speech on behalf of action now for federal suffrage at Richmond, Virginia, with Miss Mabel Vernon speaking at the same meeting. Dr. Wiley, when Mrs. Wiley chose to go to prison rather than yield her right of peaceful petition, did not interfere with her decision, and since the complete vindication of the women who were arrested by petty Administration officials, he has very definite ideas concerning the fight for liberty which has cost American women so much.

Miss Amidon, Mrs. Helena Hill Weed and Mr. Malone will continue to speak in Eastern States, Miss Amidon speaking in Portland, Worcester, Framingham, Boston, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and Woodstock, Vermont. Mr. Malone is the principal speaker at two large mass meetings in Boston and Portland, Maine, this week. Mrs. Weed in her series of New Jersey meetings is showing her picture slides of the pickets to accompany her talk.

Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles, a member of the executive committee and State Chairman of Delaware, will be the principal speaker at the Michigan state conference of the Woman's Party, and will hold additional meetings in Grand Rapids, Detroit and Battle Creek.

MISS Margaret Fay Whittemore, of Detroit, will have charge of the Pacific coast meetings, speaking in California in San Diego, Los Angeles and San Francisco; in Oregon in Eugene, Salem and Portland, and after Portland speaking at a Salt Lake City mass meeting which Miss Alice Henkle is arranging. Miss Whittemore will spend some time in Idaho, organizing the strong sentiment of the people of the state in favor of national suffrage to which Senator Borah at the present time still refuses to commit himself.

The feeling of suffragists that Congress should now investigate and fix responsibility for the arrests of women from so many states is growing. In Massachusetts, where Dudley Field Malone will speak at a great mass meeting at Tremont Temple March 24, sentiment in favor of such an investigation is crystallizing. Mr. Malone at this meeting will place special emphasis on the legal side of these cases and the responsibility of the government. In speaking of the results in the District of Columbia Courts Mrs. Katherine Ware Smith, the secretary of the Massachusetts organization, said this week:

"WHILE we consider the decision of the Court of Appeals is a victory for suffrage, of course, it was a victory that we anticipated all along. We knew that we were not breaking a law when we picketed.

"Men have said to me at the time of the picket at the White House: 'Of course you *must* have been breaking a law, they do not arrest people who are not law breakers.' The decision of the Court of Appeals proved that we were right. We are not lawbreakers, and all the suffering of those brave women who picketed was needless. They were not law breakers yet they were punished as if they were the commonest kind of law breaking women. And there was no redress.

"Suffragists feel gratified that this decision of the Court of Appeals has been made public, but we feel also that Congress should now fix the blame by a full investigation. It is one thing to know you are right; we were sure of that. But it is an infinite satisfaction to have that judgment given to the world."

The Strategic South for Federal Suffrage

Governor Sidney J. Catts of Florida on Picketing for Suffrage

I believe that the time is long past when our American women should be debarred from enjoying the same privileges of the franchise as men. I believe that the method that these young women (the pickets) have employed in working for the Susan B. Anthony amendment has been the best possible method to follow. I hope that the time for favorable action for democracy is here, and that this measure of justice will soon come to the individual legislatures of this country.

FLORIDA and Texas have become the storm centers of the South in regard to the contest in the United States Senate for the passage of the federal suffrage amendment. In both states there is strong popular sentiment in favor of national suffrage, those senators who have not definitely committed themselves to democracy for women running counter to the expressed democratic sentiment of the people.

In both states during the last month intensive suffrage work has been done by the National Woman's Party, Congressional Districts being completely organized in anticipation of the ratification campaign, and mass meetings with local state officials taking part held in all sections of these states.

Two significant meetings which were held in Florida last week took place at the Miami Beach country home of Mrs. John Henry Hanan, of New York, with Dudley Field Malone speaking; and at the Capital, Tallahassee, where Governor Catt and Miss Doris Stevens were the speakers, Miss Stevens afterward addressing the Governor's staff at the Capitol. In Texas suffrage rallies will be held in every large city, beginning with this weeks' meeting at the Bender Hotel in Houston.

DUDLEY FIELD MALONE came from Palm Beach to speak at the drawing room meeting held at Hanania, the beautiful Hanan summer home fronting on the ocean. The meeting was followed by a reception and tea. At the brief organization session preceding Mr. Malone's address organization plans were developed.

Mr. Malone opened his address with the answer to that ever recurring question, "Why when the great war is on do we insist on agitating for suffrage?" "It is never the wrong time to do justice," was Mr. Malone's answer. When we are fighting abroad for democracy, why should we not plead at home for a full fruition of that idea? 'Reform is beautiful, but lives in the next village,' he quoted. "We are always dedicated to the reform but not to the reformer. Agitation is acceptable but not the agitator. The government is increasingly dependent on women. If it were not for women the war could not go on.

"There are all kinds of suffragists among statesmen and politicians. The president is not a suffragist by conviction, but has said that he is a suffragist for policy's stake. The President told me that what the United States needed in time of war was more steel and less emotion. I told him that it was a biological fact that women are able to suffer more and do suffer more than men; that spiritually they endure more, and that if more steel be needed the women will furnish the steel tempered by the white heat of suffering. Personally I am tired of the great amount of pig iron to be found among the males."

MR. Malone handled the picketing question, still in the public mind in spite of the fact that the press of the country is fast making that past form of agitation respectable:

"If you are entitled to a right, don't ask for it, demand it; and if you do not get it, fight for it," he advised when talking of the way women were forced to wait for seventy years for an answer to mere requests. "People do not like mere preachment without action. A year ago in January, the President told me that suffrage was not an imminent issue. It was a strangely important question to me because I had in good faith made those promises to the women of the West.

"But now the front line trenches are taken and the battle will soon be over. What has done it? Picketing. One coterie disapproved; another disapproved and another was mystified, but one and all talked about suffrage. There was danger of suffrage being submerged and the 'iron-jawed angels,' as one congressman called them, kept the issue alive.

"The government made its mistake when it opposed the picketing. The President was not annoyed by the pickets for five and one-half months. He told them so. It is only when a legitimate demand is opposed that it becomes a widespread fight. The dramatization of the demand was the picketing which compelled the passage of the measure. Men of the nation changed their view when women made their demands articulate.

FOLLOWING Mr. Malone, Miss Doris Stevens was introduced by Mrs. Hanan. Miss Stevens, as a picket, and one who served a jail sentence, told the gathering what it meant to the women to have been able to suffer in jail for a cause which they loved. She spoke of the reforms which the Woman's Party had been able to secure in the prisons as a result of their imprisonment. "It is fine to be able to feel that we are now respectable again in the eyes of the law," Miss Stevens said in commenting upon the decision of the court of appeals which handed down the decision that the arrest, conviction and imprisonment of all pickets was illegal, and that the 218 women arrested all had grounds for damage suits. This decision was made by a judge appointed under Mr. Wilson, one under Theodore Roosevelt and one under William Taft.

GOVERNOR S. J. Catt presided at the High School Auditorium meeting held at the Capital. In presenting Miss Stevens Governor Catts said: "Long ago our American women should have been granted the same privileges of franchise as the men. I believe that the method that these young women have employed (picketing) in working for the Susan B. Anthony amendment has been the best possible method to follow. I hope that the time for favorable action as a national measure is here, and that the matter will speedily come to the individual legislatures."

Following Miss Stevens' address the following women were elected as officers of the Third Congressional District: Chairman, Mrs. C. A. Cay, vice-chairman, Mrs. J. A. Edmontson; secretary, Miss Caroline Mays; publicity chairman, Mrs. B. A. Meginness.

Governor Catts invited Miss Stevens to meet and address his staff at the Capital, that they might realize the national importance of the suffrage measure and support it as individuals and as state officers not only when the measure comes before the state legislature, but at the present time in asking the support of the Florida senators. This was the first time a suffragist had been officially asked to address the staff of a Florida governor.

PREPARATIONS are being made in Texas for state-wide meetings for Miss Stevens, to be held in Houston, San Antonio, Austin, Forth Worth, and Dallas. Among those who are arranging these meetings are Mrs. E. St. Clair Thompson, National organizer; Mrs. Clara Snell Wolfe, State Chairman of Texas; Mrs. S. A. Lindsey, a Texas member of the National Advisory Council; Mrs. J. S. Callicutt, Chairman of the Sixth Congressional District; Mrs. Lena Gardner and Mrs. T. A. Coleman.

In Houston this week Miss Stevens was entertained at the Country Club where she spoke; was the principal speaker at a mass meeting at the Bender Hotel ballroom, and held several drawing-room meetings. At the Bender Hotel meeting Miss Florence Sterling and Mrs. E. Clinton Murray headed the committee of arrangements, with Mrs. Niels Esperson among the patronesses. Mrs. R. E. Burt, Mrs. E. V. Niemeyer, Mrs. March Culmore, Mrs. Julia Montgomery, Mrs. Francis Bostick, Miss Cora Lee Gregson, Mrs. Gentry Waldo, Mrs. Frank Sterling, Mrs. H. I. Wilson, Mrs. F. A. Helbig, served on committees.

Senator King Hears from Utah

THE suffrage record of Senator King, of Utah, is being regarded with grave suspicion by the voters of his home state, and telegrams and letters of protest are reaching him in large numbers to remind him that it will be inexpedient if he break faith with a voting state of the West.

Among the men and women and notable groups which have reminded Senator King are: Mrs. G. V. Lawry, State Regent Daughters of the Revolution; Mrs. W. H. Tremayne, President, for the Salt Lake Woman's Club; Manufacturers' Association of Utah, the wives of the Board of regents and the faculty of the University of Utah; Margaret Zane Cherdrun; the Salt Lake Wasatch Literary Club; Utah State Federation of Clubs; the Woman's Relief Corps; the Cleofan Club, the Pan-Hellenic Club; the Woman's Christian Temperance Union; the Young Women's Christian Association of Utah; the State Federation of Labor; the Woman's Republican Club; the Utah Liberty Loan Committee (consisting of fifty members from every county in Utah); the Rebekahs; the Woman's Relief and Aid Society.

The Utah Liberty Loan Committee is made up of a joint committee made up of the State Committee organized by men and the Woman's Liberty Loan Committee. The joint organization committee from all counties is made up of both men and women. The following resolution sent by this large and active group to the President and to Senator King is therefore interesting:

Salt Lake City Utah,
February 9, 1918.

WHEREAS, the federal suffrage amendment has passed the House of Representatives and is soon to come up for a vote in the United States Senate, and whereas, Senator William King, senator from Utah, has not pledged himself to vote for the amendment, we, the Joint Committee of the Liberty Loan Committee of the State of Utah, and the Woman's Liberty Committee, urge and request Senator King to vote for this measure when it comes up because we believe the enfranchisement of the women of America to be an act of justice due the women of the country at this time when they are being called upon to bear the heavy burdens of war, and because, we believe that to perfect the democracy of America will hasten our triumph in this war for world democracy.

(Signed) HEBER J. GRANT,
Chairman of the State Liberty Loan Committee.
(Signed) MRS. MONTAGUE FERRY,
Chairman, Woman's Liberty Loan Committee.

THE following dramatic resolution was received by Senator King from the State chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution:

Salt Lake City, Utah, February 14, 1918.

We, The Spirit of Liberty Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, whose forefathers fought for their own political liberty and that of their descendants, most urgently request Senator William H. King, Senator from Utah, to vote and work for the passage of the federal suffrage amendment when it comes to a vote in the Senate, because that is the first great step toward the political freedom of all the women of America and we believe it to be a further step toward the realization of that ideal of democracy for which our forefathers fought.

(Signed) MRS. G. LAWRY, *Regent.*
(Signed) ANTOINFTTE KINNY, *Secretary.*

The Demand of Texas for Federal Suffrage Action

FROM every part of Texas demands that Senator Culberson, still in the doubtful column for federal suffrage, give his support to the amendment enfranchising women are coming in in a steady stream. These letters which represent the thinking men and women of Texas have up to the present time met the stereotyped evasion from the Southern Senator that he was giving the matter "consideration."

Among those who have dispatched letters to Senator Culberson during the last two weeks are the following: Mrs. Virginia K. Johnson, of Dallas, editor of The King's Messenger and founder of an industrial home for girls; C. H. Poole, of Cleburne, Manager of the Review Publishing Company; J. R. Ransome, Jr., Editor and owner Cleburne Enterprise; E. A. Peden, of Houston, Food Administrator of Texas; City Officials of Austin, Texas, including Mayor A. P. Wooldridge; City Attorney J. B. Rector, City Clerk; V. E. Martin, W. L. Eyres, of Water and Light Department; J. H. Colley and E. Musglaves, of the Police Department; P. S. Spiller and J. D. Copeland, Clerks Corporation Court; Mayor J. L. Halbert, of Corsicana; Senator J. H. Wood, of the Texas Legislature.

THE SUFFRAGIST will print from week to week a few of the appeals that Senator Culberson and other "considering" Senators are receiving from their home districts which give these gentlemen specific reasons why women are demanding action without further delay on the fifty years past due suffrage question.

Pertinent letters from two well known Texans, T. C. Jennings, Commissioner of Labor for Texas; and B. F. Looney, Attorney General of Texas, follow:

March 1, 1918.

Hon. Chas. A. Culberson, Senate Chamber, Washington, D. C.

MY Dear Senator:

Having long been a supporter of yours, I am going to presume upon that fact to earnestly ask your support in the United States Senate for the Constitutional Amendment conferring the right of suffrage upon the women of the nation.

In doing so I am thoroughly convinced that I am voicing the sentiments of an overwhelming majority of the great body of workers, not only of Texas, but of the nation as well. It has been a standing demand of organized labor for many years, and I feel that by giving your support to this measure you will earn the undying gratitude of the working masses.

The noble part the women of the nation are taking in the all important work of winning this war, the many sacrifices, hardships and privations they are being called upon, and will continue to be called upon to undergo before this great struggle is won, entitles them to it, and I earnestly hope that you can see your way clear to lend it your support.

Thanking you in advance for any favors along this line, I am,

Very truly yours,
(Signed) T. C. JENNINGS,
Commissioner.

State of Texas, Attorney General's Department, Austin.

March 1, 1918.

Senator Charles A. Culberson,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR Sir: I have been requested by some splendid women of Texas to write you my views on the pending proposed amendment to the Federal Constitution in regard to woman suffrage and also to request you to support the same.

I am replying to their request herewith and trust, before you bring yourself to vote against the measure, you will give it a searcing re-examination.

The objections that are being made to this amendment from the Democratic standpoint is, that the Federal Government should have nothing to say as to who may or may not vote for state officers.

If we could dispose of one hundred years of the history of this nation; in other words, if we could pull up and go back one hundred years, along the highway that we have traveled as a nation, this point would be, as the lawyers would say, of first impression, and the objection might possibly be tenable.

The federal government, however, is now and has for fifty years been saying who may and who may not vote for state officers. Of course, you understand I refer to the effect of the Fifteenth Amendment.

I am not boasting of this authority because we of the South do not yet relish the motives behind its enactment. However, we must accept the fact that it is a part of our system, that no serious suggestion is being made to repeal it and no attempt will be made to repeal it. Everybody recognizes that it's one of the fixed principles in our governmental scheme. Therefore, to adopt the proposed suffrage amendment, the effect of which will be to clothe women with an exemption from being discriminated against by the statutes in the exercise of the elective franchise, introduces nothing new but extends a principle adopted and now permanently established.

In view of this situation, which you must admit exists, it's too late, in my opinion, to raise this objection against the enfranchisement of half of the adult population of this country who are as vitally interested and affected by our laws and public policies as our men, but who are by us denied any participation in the enactment of laws or the establishment of public policies.

I protest that this is neither just nor Democratic and is really indefensible from the standpoint of justice, equality or democracy.

I trust, therefore, that you may find it consistent with your duty as a United States Senator to cast your vote in favor of submitting this question to the states for their ratification.

With personal regards and good wishes, I am,

Your friend,

(Signed) B. F. LOONEY,
Attorney General.

New York State Politicians Warn Senator Wadsworth

SENATOR Wadsworth continues to be reminded by state senators, organized labor, state committeemen, women's organizations and civic organizations that his position as to federal suffrage at the present time is untenable.

G. Wilbur Doughty, committeeman and one of the leaders of Nassau County, writes to Senator Wadsworth:

"Dear Senator:

"The people of Nassau County at the present time are practically unanimous in their desire of seeing suffrage extended to the women of the country and I think it is the only thing for Republicans to do to assist them in every way that lies in our power. In our own state they are entitled to the same consideration and should be considered in our Party Councils the same as the men and all courtesies extended to them. I trust you can see your way clear to assist in this movement.

"Yours truly, "G. WILBUR DOUGHTY."

STATE senators are still trying to show the senior member from New York that it is either up to him to resign or to vote for federal suffrage to save embarrassment to the Republican Party. Women with a sense of humor cannot help smiling over some of these appeals. State Senators McWhinney and Thompson have dispatched the following two protests:

"My Dear Senator:

"I have been requested by a great number of my constituents, among whom there are some prominent political workers, to write to you in reference to the woman suffrage amendment now before the Senate.

"For the last twenty-five years, I have taken an active part in the conduct of the political campaigns in Nassau County. I believe, therefore, I am in a position to speak authoritatively on what I take to be the prevailing opinion of the male and female voters in my district.

"Before election there was a difference of opinion on this question, with a majority, as the vote shows, in favor of suffrage; since election, at the request of Mr. Doughty, our leader, I have gone into the matter conscientiously with the idea of getting women to affiliate and co-operate with the Republican Party. I find that the men have accepted the judgment of the voters as expressed on election day in favor of woman suffrage and that a large majority that were opposed to woman suffrage before election would now vote for it if the question was re-submitted. I believe that ninety per cent of the women of Nassau County who were active in opposing woman suffrage, if the question were submitted to them to vote on, would vote in favor of retaining the right of suffrage. The exceptional ones that I have met, who still oppose woman suffrage, declare they will never exercise the right of suffrage. Therefore, Senator, as a political factor, they will count for little as they can neither help nor hurt us; and, being a great admirer of yours and knowing your value to the Republican Party, I feel it is my duty to inform you as to the existing sentiment of the people of Nassau County.

"I am sure, Senator, that you will accept this in the spirit in which it is sent and that your good judgment will lead you to vote in conformity with the wishes of the majority of your constitutents.

"With highest personal regards and best wishes, I beg to remain,

"Sincerely yours,

(Signed) "THOMAS A. MCWHINNEY"

"MY Dear Senator Wadsworth:

"I am persuaded from a pure sense of duty to write you in behalf of the good women of my senatorial district. They are anxious that you favor their cause and I am as anxious as they that you might see it from their viewpoint. It does seem to me after their overwhelming victory in the State of New York last fall, that this last request might appeal to your sense of justice and that you might see your way clear to carry out their wishes in this matter.

"I am deeply interested in your political future. Knowing you as I do, I feel that I may speak as I do, when I say that regardless of your attitude in the past upon this question, the women of New York are about to participate in the affairs of the state; and no matter what you might say or do you cannot prevent it, you have to accept the verdict of the people, that it would be unwise to oppose them further; on the other hand, it would be political wisdom in view of what I have stated to try to accept the inevitable, and do your best with the rest of us poor mortals to try and show the good women that we are with them and that we will co-operate in every way possible to assist them in helping in matters affecting our state and nation.

"I trust this finds you in the very best of health, full of your old time vigor to fight for what you feel is for the best interests of our nation, which is passing through this crisis, and that you will pardon me if I have trespassed too far upon your good nature, and with kind personal regards, I am,

"Faithfully yours,

(Signed) "GEO. LINCOLN THOMPSON,
(State Senator.)

THE following resolution was unanimously passed by the New York State Letter Carriers' Association:

"Whereas, the Federal Woman Suffrage Amendment has been passed by the House of Representatives and is now to be voted on by the Senate of the United States, and whereas, New York State has enfranchised its women citizens by an overwhelming majority on November 6, 1917, be it resolved, that the New York Letter Carriers' Association call on Senators Wadsworth and Calder to support the Federal Woman Suffrage Amendment by their favorable votes in the Senate and urge them to work actively for its immediate and successful passage, and be it further resolved, that the New York Letter Carriers' Association do respectfully urge President Wilson and the Democratic Administration to favor and aid the successful passage of the woman suffrage amendment in the Senate by his great influence as the leader of his party."

The Thin, Black Line

IT is stated that Democratic leaders in Congress are moving to have members of Congress from the South break their lines and give support to the suffrage amendment that is to be voted on very soon now. They are doing this as a party endeavor. They see what is ahead for their party in the fall of this year when a new house is to be elected, with senators who will make the upper branch Democratic or Republican according to the will of the voter.

The men who are seeking an entering wedge in the South are wise in their generation.

It is not to be gainsaid. There is a prejudice that the South is having too much to say in the affairs of the nation at a most critical period, not because the South has abler men in public life or that it is more patriotic than the North, but purely as a matter of partisan politics, the South being almost exclusively Democratic and united for a purpose and able to control. Nothing good can come out of the North!

This feeling regarding Southern dictation in and about the White House and Congress is likely to be accentuated if the suffrage amendment is tested on section grounds.

When the prohibition amendment was adopted because of a united South to a straggling North, loud were the lamentations from Northern congressmen and their publications. It was claimed that the South viewed this question purely from the Southern standpoint. Federal prohibition was demanded to protect the Southern white from the black, prohibition in this instance being on the whole a black and white, racial proposition.

If the suffrage amendment is treated on the same ground and voted against because of its effect upon the negro vote in the Southern belt, the line of cleavage will be considerably widened and deepened. In the coming elections the party will be set down as anti-suffrage on account of its sensitiveness regarding Southern feeling. The Republican North will be asked to set aside the party that has its moorings in the South. This we believe would be unfortunate, but it is what must take place if the Southern break does not come. . . . . —*Rocky Mountain News, January 10, 1918.*

By De Mar, Philadelphia Record

Will He Learn the Lesson?

Why Not Now?

COME, gentlemen, be good—and at the same time be wise. It is probable that the proposed suffrage amendment to the federal constitution will come up in the Senate within a few days. Nothing that is good can be gained by defeating or postponing it. No sensible man can doubt that the coming of woman suffrage is inevitable. If the women do not win now, they will go on with their fight until they are successful. Why continue the struggle? If the women were known to be incapable of exercising the rights of citizenship intelligently, it would be a patriotic duty to continue the fight against them, even if the effort to defeat them were hopeless. But there is no such reason for prolonging the conflict. There is no other good reason for squabbling or for delay in this matter. Why not end it now? Gentlemen, be good—and at the same time be wise.—*Dayton News, February 26, 1918.*

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Democrats Take Notice

UNLESS Democrats at home and in Washington become more alive to the situation Teddy and his cohorts are going to capture the suffrage plum right from under their noses and march with it triumphant in the 1920 presidential election.

Read the enlightening message that was quite recently transmitted from one Theodore to one Senator Gallinger. Read again between the lines and if you are an honest-to-goodness Democrat you cannot refrain transmitting a note of your own to Senator Charles A. Culberson, listed as uncertain on the woman suffrage question.—*Austin (Texas) American, January 31, 1918.*

Georgia for Federal Suffrage

PRESIDENT Wilson came in for a bit of criticism.

The well-known but elusive "Southern chivalry" made its inevitable appearance and inglorious exit.

It happened at the monthly meeting of the Georgia Society, and the cause was The Cause of Suffrage, no less!

It was the liveliest scrap in the history of the society. It arose from a resolution introduced at the request of suffrage leaders in Washington, calling upon the President, the Democratic leader in Congress and the Representatives from Georgia to back the federal suffrage amendment.

Somebody suggested that it was safe to follow the President's lead.

"President Wilson is not a what-you'd call radical suffragette," began D. C. Meredith, a new member of the society, "and he only gave the women a hint that he would sponsor woman suffrage in order to get their vote in the last election."

It was like a bomb-shell.

"Didn't you know that he had asked Congress to submit the federal amendment?" asked a girl.

"Oh, did he?" said Mr. Meredith.

A verbal battle then raged.

Not a woman raised her voice against the resolution, while several spoke strongly in fovor of it. Some men were among the pros.

Oh, yes, the ladies won out.

The Georgia Society is on record for suffrage, and if the Georgia Congressmen don't know about it, it won't be the fault of the women members of the organization.—*Washington (D. C.) Herald, February, 1918.*

On Limiting Ignorance

"BUT if the women during the first few years of their suffrage experience will stick to voting for the things they know about—that is to say, the improvement of the affairs of women, children, homes," says the St. *Petersburg Times,* "there will be a great straightening out of the legislation and execution in these departments." This sounds very good, but suppose men voters should be counseled only to vote for the things they know about, just how much voting would they do?—*Miami (Fla.) Metropolis, March 8, 1918.*

The Senate and Suffrage

WHEN the Senate votes on the Susan B. Anthony amendment it will be the third time in its history it has voted on the woman suffrage question. The vote in 1884 was the first, and in 1914 it failed to secure the two-thirds necessary, though it did secure a majority of one vote.

Since that time several important states have adopted suffrage, or, as it is better put, enfranchised women. New York, which figures in Presidential elections as a potential quantity in the voting, is now a woman suffrage state.

The President's declaration and the feeling among party leaders that suffrage has become a paramount issue which neither party can afford to be wrong on, is relied upon by suffrage leaders to insure victory in the Senate as in the House.

The political expediency argument has become rather compelling. Enough women have the vote to make them a very important factor in national elections and nominations.

There is a very general idea to be found, even among members of Congress, that the passage of the Susan B. Anthony amendment makes voters of all the women in the United States. It does nothing of the sort. All the passage of the amendment does is to submit the question to the states, as provided by the Constitution for the adoption of any amendment.

The enfranchisement of women will not take place until three-quarters of the states have approved the amendment. How long it will take to secure the support of the states after the matter has been submitted to them by Congressional action is problematical, but as far as this newspaper is concerned, it believes earnestly that the sooner it is accomplished the better for the country.—*Washington (D. C) Herald, March 2, 1918.*

"Brow-beating" Presidents for Liberty

WASHINGTON Court of Appeals decides that that picketing of the White House was not "unlawful assembly" unless an unlawful purpose was shown. Brow-beating a president into doing what he doesn't think right isn't an unlawful purpose, evidently. Gee! what a pointer for us ordinary husbands!—*Reading (Pa.) Telegram, March 8, 1918.*

Concerning the "Fires of Patriotism"

HAD the picketing been undertaken at any other time it is probable the pickets might have been rewarded for their zeal, principally in the consciousness of duty done under orders.

The reversal of the local court's conviction at the same time is an illustration of how easily the extremist attitude of one side is followed by the opposite extreme from the other, especially when the fire of patriotism begins to burn briskly.—*Pittsburgh Dispatch, March 7, 1918.*

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List of Contributions from March 9 Through March 16, 1918

Contributions made to National Headquarters:

Contributions made to National Headquarters:	
Per Mrs. Kent's Committee:	
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Mrs. John Jay White	25.00
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Mrs. Fletcher Jordan	5.00
Mrs. Catherine Webster	1.00
Mrs. W. P. Vaughan	3.00
Mrs. Marie G. Richardson	2.00
Anonymous	5.00
Dr. Maria M. Dean	2.88
Collections	213.33
Membership Fees	9.50
Collection for Multigraph Machine for Press Dept.	129.50
Total collected by National Headquarters	1,283.21
Previously acknowledged in THE SUFFRAGIST	320,129.57
Total collected by National Headquarters through March 16, 1918	$321,412.78
Total collected by Branches through March 16, 1918	51,253.45
Grand Total	372,666.23
Deduction:	
Transferred from Branch Headquarters to National Headquarters	2,750.50
Grand Net Total	$369,915.73

Clearing the Pickets

THE decision of the court of appeals of the District of Columbia that the "White House picketers" were not engaged unlawfully suggests to the country the advisability of forming a new set of views.

It has been the general notion that these women were the hoodlums, that the government clerks, pool-room loafers, policemen and White House guards who tore at the clothes of the women and slapped their faces were perfect gentlemen. For some strange reason, it was convenient for the powers at Washington to help in the dissemination of that idea. The decision of the court now reverses the position of the parties concerned in the riots. It gives the picketers a clean bill. Unfortunately, nothing was said of the official distributors of misinformation. Justice is sometimes careless.—*Detroit Journal, March 9, 1918.*

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The following have entered this week: Mississipi, Missouri, North Carolina, Rhode Island	4
Total	18

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